United Nations A/RES/60/197

General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 52 (*d*)

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/60/488/Add.4)*]

### 60/197. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and its resolutions 56/199 of 21 December 2001, 57/257 of 20 December 2002, 58/243 of 23 December 2003 and 59/234 of 22 December 2004 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1] including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions,

*Recalling further* the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[2] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[3] the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held in New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,[4] the outcome of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties held in Milan, Italy, from 1 to 12 December 2003,[5] and the outcome of the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Buenos Aires from 6 to 18 December 2004,[6]

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[3] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[4] FCCC/CP/2002/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.8.

[5] FCCC/CP/2003/6/Add.1 and 2.

[6] FCCC/CP/2004/10/Add.1 and 2.

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[7]

*Reaffirming* the Mauritius Declaration[8] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[9]

*Remaining deeply concerned* that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks from the negative effects of climate change, and stressing the need to address adaptation needs relating to such effects,

*Noting* that one hundred and eighty-nine States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention,

*Noting also* that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[10] has attracted one hundred and fifty-six ratifications, including from parties mentioned in annex I to the Convention, which account for 61.6 per cent of emissions,

*Noting further* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the need to build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Panel for the exchange of scientific data and information, especially in developing countries,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[11] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,[12]

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system,

*Taking note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,[13]

1. *Calls upon* States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

2. *Notes* that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[10] welcome the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol on 16 February 2005 and strongly urge States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner;

3. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken under the flexible mechanisms established by the Kyoto Protocol;

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[7] See resolution 60/1.

[8] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

[11] See resolution 55/2.

[12] Ibid., para. 23.

[13] A/60/171, sect. I.

4. *Takes note* of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session,[13] and calls for their implementation;

5. *Notes* the importance of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Montreal, Canada, from 28 November to 9 December 2005;

6. *Also notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa[14] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[15] and encourages cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

8. *Invites* the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

9. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

*68th plenary meeting*
*22 December 2005*

[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.
[14] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

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Agenda item 52 (c)

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/60/488/Add.5)]

### 60/198. Sustainable mountain development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, by which it proclaimed 2002 the International Year of Mountains,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 55/189 of 20 December 2000, 57/245 of 20 December 2002 and 58/216 of 23 December 2003,

*Recalling further* its resolution 59/238 of 22 December 2004 on rendering assistance to poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas,

*Recognizing* chapter 13 of Agenda 21[1] and all relevant paragraphs of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2] in particular paragraph 42 thereof, as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable development in mountain regions,

*Noting* the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions ("Mountain Partnership"), launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development, with benefits from the committed support of forty-four countries, fourteen intergovernmental organizations and sixty-eight organizations from major groups, as an important approach to addressing the various interrelated dimensions of sustainable development in mountain regions,

*Noting also* the Bishkek Mountain Platform,[3] the outcome document of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, held at Bishkek from 28 October to 1 November 2002, which was the concluding event of the International Year of Mountains,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sustainable mountain development";[4]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] A/C.2/57/7, annex.

[4] A/60/309.

2. *Notes with appreciation* that a growing network of Governments, organizations, major groups and individuals around the world recognize the importance of sustainable development of mountain regions for poverty eradication, as well as the global importance of mountains as the source of most of the Earth's freshwater, as repositories of rich biological diversity, as popular destinations for recreation and tourism and as areas of important cultural diversity, knowledge and heritage;

3. *Notes with concern* that there remain key challenges to achieving sustainable development, eradicating poverty in mountain regions and protecting mountain ecosystems, and that populations in mountain regions are frequently among the poorest of a given country;

4. *Notes* that the growing demand for natural resources, including water, the consequences of erosion, deforestation and other forms of watershed degradation, the occurrence of natural disasters, as well as increasing outmigration, the pressures of industry, transport, tourism, mining, agriculture and the consequences of global climate change are some of the key challenges in fragile mountain ecosystems to implementing sustainable development and eradicating poverty in mountains, consistent with the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in mountain regions, especially those in developing countries;

6. *Underlines* that action at the national level is a key factor in achieving progress in sustainable mountain development, welcomes its steady increase in recent years with a multitude of events, activities and initiatives, and invites the international community to support the efforts of developing countries to develop and implement strategies and programmes, including, where required, enabling policies and laws for the sustainable development of mountains, within the framework of national development plans;

7. *Encourages* the further establishment of committees or similar multi-stakeholder institutional arrangements and mechanisms at the national level to enhance intersectoral coordination and collaboration for sustainable development in mountain regions;

8. *Also encourages* increased involvement of relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, in the development and implementation of programmes and activities related to sustainable development in mountains;

9. *Underlines* the need for improved access to resources for women in mountain regions as well as the need to strengthen the role of women in mountain regions in decision-making processes that affect their communities, cultures and environments;

10. *Stresses* that indigenous cultures, traditions and knowledge, including in the field of medicine, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted in development policy and planning in mountain regions, and underlines the importance of promoting full participation and involvement of mountain communities in decisions that affect them and of integrating indigenous knowledge, heritage and values in all development initiatives;

11. *Recognizes* that many developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition need to be assisted in the formulation and implementation of national strategies and programmes for sustainable mountain development, through bilateral, multilateral and South-South cooperation, as well as through other forms of collaborative approaches;

12. *Notes* that funding for sustainable mountain development has become increasingly important, especially in view of the greater recognition of the global importance of mountains and the high level of extreme poverty, food insecurity and hardship facing mountain communities;

13. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, all relevant United Nations conventions and their funding mechanisms, within their respective mandates, and all relevant stakeholders from civil society and the private sector to consider providing support, including through voluntary financial contributions, to local, national and international programmes and projects for sustainable development in mountain regions;

14. *Underlines* the importance for sustainable development in mountains of exploring a wide range of funding sources, such as public-private partnerships, increased opportunities for microfinance, including microinsurance, small housing loans, savings, education and health accounts, and support for entrepreneurs seeking to develop small and medium-sized businesses and, where appropriate, on a case-by-case basis, debt for sustainable development swaps;

15. *Underlines also* the importance of enhancing the sustainability of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well-being and economic activity and developing innovative means of financing for their protection;

16. *Notes with satisfaction* the recent adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[5] of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity, the overall purpose of which is the significant reduction of the loss of mountain biological diversity by 2010 at the global, regional and national levels, and its implementation, which aims at making a significant contribution to poverty eradication in mountain regions;

17. *Recognizes* that mountain ranges are usually shared among several countries, and in this context encourages transboundary cooperation approaches, where the States concerned agree, to the sustainable development of mountain ranges and information-sharing in this regard;

18. *Notes with appreciation* in this context the Convention on the Protection of the Alps,[6] which promotes constructive new approaches to integrated, sustainable development of the Alps, including through its thematic protocols on spatial planning, mountain farming, conservation of nature and landscape, mountain forests, population and culture, tourism, soil protection, energy and transport, and welcomes the recent membership of the Convention in the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions;

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[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[6] Ibid., vol. 1917, No. 32724.

19. *Also notes with appreciation* the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians,[7] adopted and signed by the seven countries of the region to provide a framework for cooperation and multisectoral policy coordination, a platform for joint strategies for sustainable development and a forum for dialogue between all involved stakeholders;

20. *Stresses* the importance of capacity-building, institutional strengthening and educational programmes in order to foster sustainable mountain development at all levels and to enhance awareness of good practices in sustainable development in mountain regions and of the nature of relationships between highland and lowland areas;

21. *Encourages* the development and implementation of global, regional and national communication programmes to build on the awareness and momentum for change created by the International Year of Mountains and the opportunity provided annually by International Mountain Day on 11 December;

22. *Also encourages* Member States to collect and produce information and to establish databases devoted to mountains so as to capitalize on knowledge to support interdisciplinary research, programmes and projects and to improve decision-making and planning;

23. *Further encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to further enhance their constructive efforts to strengthen inter-agency collaboration to achieve more effective implementation of relevant chapters of Agenda 21,[3] including chapter 13 and paragraph 42 and other relevant paragraphs of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[2] taking into account the inter-agency group on mountains and the need for the further involvement of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as international financial institutions and other relevant international organizations;

24. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Mountain Partnership implemented in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, invites the international community and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to consider joining the Mountain Partnership, and invites the Partnership Secretariat to report on its activities and achievements to the fourteenth meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2006, including in regard to the thematic cluster issues of energy, climate change, air pollution and atmosphere and industrial development;

25. *Notes with appreciation* in this context the efforts of the Mountain Partnership to cooperate with existing multilateral instruments relevant to mountains, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[8] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[9] the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

[7] Available from www.carpathianconvention.org/text.htm.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[9] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

and mountain-related regional instruments such as the Convention on the Protection of the Alps and the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;

26. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the second global meeting of the members of the Mountain Partnership, held in Cusco, Peru, on 28 and 29 October 2004, at the invitation of the Government of Peru;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, under a sub-item entitled "Sustainable mountain development" of the item entitled "Sustainable development".

*68th plenary meeting*
*22 December 2005*

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General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 52 (*f*)

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/60/488/Add.6)*]

### 60/199. Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999, 55/205 of 20 December 2000, 56/200 of 21 December 2001 and 58/210 of 23 December 2003 on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

*Noting* that the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 made a contribution to raising awareness of the increased role that new and renewable sources of energy can play in the global energy supply,

*Recalling* the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[2] concerning energy for sustainable development,

*Welcoming* initiatives that aim to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services for sustainable development in order to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3]

*Emphasizing* that the increased use and promotion of all forms of new and renewable energy for sustainable development, including solar-thermal, photovoltaic, biomass, wind, hydro, tidal, ocean and geothermal forms, could make a significant contribution towards the achievement of sustainable development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

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[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

*Welcoming* efforts by Governments and institutions that have embarked on policies and programmes that seek to expand the use of new and renewable energy for sustainable development, and recognizing the contributions of regional initiatives as well as of institutions in supporting the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, in this respect,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Reaffirms* that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[2] is the intergovernmental framework for energy for sustainable development agreed to at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and calls for its full implementation;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to intensify research and development in support of energy for sustainable development, which will require increased commitment on the part of all stakeholders, including Governments and the private sector, to deploy financial and human resources for accelerating research efforts;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, which could meet the growing need for energy services in the longer term to achieve sustainable development;

5. *Encourages* national and regional initiatives on new and renewable energies to promote access to energy, including new and renewable sources of energy, for the poorest and to improve energy efficiency and conservation by resorting to a mix of available technologies, taking into full account the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation concerning energy for sustainable development;

6. *Calls upon* Governments to take further action to mobilize the provision of financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and the diffusion of environmentally sound technologies, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

7. *Welcomes* the holding of the Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference 2005, organized by the Government of the People's Republic of China and supported by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, on 7 and 8 November 2005, in follow-up to the International Conference for Renewable Energies held in Bonn from 1 to 4 June 2004;

8. *Takes note* of ongoing activities related to the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy within the United Nations system;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to raise awareness of the importance of energy for sustainable development, including the need for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy and of the increased role they can play in the global energy supply, particularly in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his report on energy to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fourteenth session, to present an overview of the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005;

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[4] A/60/154.

11. *Stresses* that the wider use of available renewable sources of energy requires technology transfer and diffusion on a global scale, including through North-South and South-South cooperation;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy".

*68th plenary meeting*
*22 December 2005*

United Nations A/RES/60/200

General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 52 (g)

# Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/60/488/Add.7)*]

## 60/200. International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 58/211 of 23 December 2003, in which it declared 2006 the International Year of Deserts and Desertification,

*Taking note* of the decision of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, held in Nairobi from 17 to 28 October 2005, on the celebration of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006,[1]

*Deeply concerned* by the exacerbation of desertification in all regions of the world, particularly in Africa, and its far-reaching implications for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular on poverty eradication,

*Deeply concerned also* at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees,

*Conscious* of the need to raise public awareness and to protect the biological diversity of deserts as well as indigenous and local communities and the traditional knowledge of those affected by this phenomenon,

*Welcoming* the decision of the Government of Algeria to convene and host an international conference with the participation of Heads of State and Government, dedicated to the protection of deserts and to combating desertification, in October 2006,

*Welcoming also* the decision of the Government of Israel to host, in cooperation with other stakeholders, an international conference entitled "Deserts and Desertification: Challenges and Opportunities" in Be'er Sheva, Israel, in November 2006,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006,[2]

[1] See ICCD/COP(7)/13, paras. 4–7.

[2] A/60/169.

1. *Welcomes* the nomination of United Nations honorary spokespersons for the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, and encourages the Secretary-General to nominate additional personalities in that respect so as to promote a successful celebration of the Year worldwide;

2. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States and all relevant international organizations to support the activities related to desertification, including land degradation, to be organized by affected countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries;

3. *Encourages* countries to contribute, as they are able, to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa[3] and to undertake special initiatives in observance of the Year with the goal of enhancing the implementation of the Convention;

4. *Invites* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Special Fund of the Convention in order to achieve the objectives of resolution 58/211 entitled "International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006";

5. *Invites* Governments and all relevant stakeholders that have not yet done so to inform the secretariat for the Convention of activities envisaged for the observance of the Year;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention to make available to the parties to the Convention and to observers a consolidated list of all activities reported, including lessons learned and best practices, in order to coordinate information and avoid overlapping of activities;

7. *Notes with interest* the decision of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to support, within its mandate, activities undertaken by affected developing countries parties to the Convention within the framework of the Year;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the celebration of the Year.

*68th plenary meeting*
*22 December 2005*

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

# General Assembly

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**Sixtieth session**
Agenda item 52 (g)

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/60/488/Add.7)*]

### 60/201. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 59/235 of 22 December 2004 and other resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1]

*Reaffirming* the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2]

*Recalling* its resolution 58/211 of 23 December 2003, in which it declared 2006 the International Year of Deserts and Desertification,

*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[3]

*Reaffirming* the universal membership of the Convention, and acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world,

*Noting* that timely and effective implementation of the Convention would help to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and encouraging affected country parties to include, as appropriate, in their national development strategies measures to combat desertification,

*Stressing* the need for further diversification of funding sources to address land degradation, in accordance with articles 20 and 21 of the Convention,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[3] See resolution 60/1.

*Expressing its deep appreciation and gratitude* to the Government of Kenya for hosting the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Nairobi from 17 to 28 October 2005,

*Welcoming* the offer made by the Government of Spain to host the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in the autumn of 2007,

*Welcoming also* the offer made by the Government of Argentina to host the fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention in September 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[4] on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[5]

2. *Resolves to support and strengthen* the implementation of the Convention to address causes of desertification and land degradation, as well as poverty resulting from land degradation, through, inter alia, the mobilization of adequate and predictable financial resources, the transfer of technology and capacity-building at all levels;

3. *Notes with interest* the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its seventh session on the outcomes of the third and fourth sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention;[6]

4. *Invites* the donor community to increase its support to the implementation of the Convention with a view to bringing greater international attention to bear on the issue of land degradation and desertification, which will contribute to the improvement of the sustainable development of drylands and the global environment;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session to conclude with the Council of the Global Environment Facility and to adopt the memorandum of understanding on enhanced collaboration between the Convention and the Facility;[6]

6. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to strengthen the focal area of land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation;

7. *Also invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue to make resources available for capacity-building activities in affected country parties implementing the Convention;

8. *Takes note with interest* of ongoing efforts to diversify the availability of financial resources to support activities aimed at combating desertification and poverty;

9. *Calls upon* Governments, where appropriate, in collaboration with relevant multilateral organizations, including the Global Environment Facility implementation agencies, to integrate desertification into their plans and strategies for sustainable development;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the implementation of all decisions of the Conference of the Parties, in particular the decisions taken at its seventh session on

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[4] A/60/171, sect. II.

[5] See ICCD/COP(7)/16/Add.1.

[6] Ibid., decision 6/COP.7 and annex.

strengthening of the Committee on Science and Technology and on the follow-up to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,[5] and supports the development of a ten-year strategy to foster the implementation of the Convention;

11. *Notes* steps taken by the Conference of the Parties at it seventh session to introduce the euro as the budget and accounting currency as from the biennium 2008–2009;[7]

12. *Recalls* the request of the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session that the Executive Secretary notify parties of their contributions for 2006 by 21 November 2005 and for 2007 by 1 October 2006 to encourage early payment,[7] and urges all parties that have not yet paid their contributions for 1999 and/or the bienniums 2000–2001 and 2002–2003 to do so as soon as possible;

13. *Recognizes* the need to provide the secretariat of the Convention with stable, adequate and predictable resources in order to enable it to continue to discharge its responsibilities in an efficient and timely manner, and further recognizes the provision in section A on budget reform in the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session on the programme and budget for the biennium 2006–2007, including the request that the Executive Secretary take additional measures necessary to address those recommendations, ensure that the financial rules are fully respected in the future and report on this matter to the meeting of the Bureau and in the performance report for the biennium 2006–2007;[7]

14. *Calls upon* Governments, and invites multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties,[8] and welcomes the financial support already provided by some countries;

15. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[9] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[10] and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

16. *Approves* the continuation of the current institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements between the Convention secretariat and the United Nations Secretariat for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by both the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties no later than 31 December 2011, as decided by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session;[11]

17. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2006–2007 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium;

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[7] Ibid., decision 23/COP.7.

[8] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras. 7–11.

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[10] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[11] ICCD/COP(7)/16/Add.1, decision 26/COP.7.

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provision for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including the eighth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of its subsidiary bodies, in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa";

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*68th plenary meeting*
*22 December 2005*